

POULTRY SHOW HERE TUESDAY

Jury Returns "Not Guilty" in Kirby Case

NEXT TUESDAY IS RED LETTER DAY IN BIG INDUSTRY

DECATUR TWINS POPULAR AT TEXAS WOMAN'S COLLEGE.

FIVE-DAYS TRIAL SETTLED BY JURY IN FIVE MINUTES



(Photo Courtesy Fort Worth Record)

NEW COUNTY-WIDE ROAD BOND URGED

Following a general discussion on the expediency of floating a bond issue to construct a modern system of highways for Wise county, representatives of the major communities in session here last Friday endorsed the undertaking to handle the initial stages of the campaign, to review the commissioners' districts, estimate the mileage that could be constructed within the limitations of the amount of the issue proposed and to designate and recommend such roads as should be constructed.

Dr. J. L. Ward addressed the meeting, expressing the viewpoint of the county seat, decisively putting himself on record as believing that Wise county can no longer postpone the earliest possible construction of a system of roads that will contribute the lacking element to further growth and prosperity.

Mr. Middleton of Willow Point, an aggressive road builder, championed the move, told of the determination of the southwest part of the county to secure the boon of a finished highway contemplated under provisions of the bond issue that has been declared for that vicinity.

Lee Morris of Chico, leading merchant and banker and a progressive spirit of western part of the county, outlined a definite plan and plead for it vigorously, but expressed his willingness to vote for any kind of a plan that may be evolved, "then the it costs me five dollars on the hundred," said Mr. Morris.

Expressions were had from Jim B. Thomas and J. R. Adcock of Alvord, Frank Turner of Bridgeport, Judge Sam M. Ward of Decatur and others. Dr. P. C. Funk of Bridgeport, said that the matter should be looked at from an attitude of unselfishness on the part of all the people concerned, and he is who moved to have the central committee appointed.

The committee was selected by a sub-committee on nomination composed of representatives of each of the several communities represented. Personnel of the central committee is as follows: For precinct one, S. A. Lillard and W. A. Helm of Decatur; for precinct two, Jim B. Thomas and A. Y. Leslie of Alvord; for precinct three, W. A. Green of Paradise and Archie Van Meter of Rhome; for precinct four, R. L. Morris of Chico and Dr. P. C. Funk of Bridgeport; Cliff D. Cates of Decatur, executive secretary. This committee will proceed at an early date with the duties placed upon it by the meeting and will call a subsequent meeting of the general representatives.

Texas Woman's College boasts of the only pair of "identical" twins in the city of Fort Worth. They are Blanche and Madge Scott, eighteen years old. Their home is in Decatur. They are so alike that if it were not that one girl weighs a little more than the other it would be impossible to tell them apart. Twins of the opposite sex, and twins who do not look alike are known as "fraternal" twins. Twins who look exactly alike and are of the same sex are called "identical" twins. It is claimed that "identical" twins have the same grade of mentality, the same impulses and emotions and are really one person in two moulds.—Fort Worth Record

MANY CASES PASS THRU COURT HERE

The following cases have been disposed of in the district court during the present term in Decatur:

Marvin Long, convicted of burglary and given two years' suspended sentence.

Hayes Long, convicted of burglary, given two years' suspended sentence.

T. J. McMillan, convicted of violating liquor law in four cases, given one year in each case.

Elmer Lutes, convicted of violating liquor law in four cases, given one year in each case.

A. M. Slaton, convicted of violating Dean liquor law in three cases, given one year in each case.

Aaron Smith (colored), convicted of violating liquor law in three cases, given one year in each case.

George Gillard, convicted of burglary, given four years.

A. White, convicted of burglary, given four years.

Wash West, convicted of burglary, given two years; also convicted of theft of over fifty dollars and given five years.

A. Lilla, convicted of simple assault, fined five dollars and costs.

Anver Dean, convicted of arson, given fifteen years.

Oliver Kirby, acquitted on charge of murder.

Sam McCandles, convicted of theft, given four years' suspended sentence.

William A. Freeman, convicted of theft, given four years' suspended sentence.

Harvey Elkins, convicted of theft, given two years.

We are the products of our own thoughts—therefore whatever we choose to be we can be.

A volume of the first edition of Bunyan's "Pilgrim Progress" recently sold at auction in London for ten thousand dollars.

AMERICAN LEGION TO HOLD MEETINGS

The Dunaway-Smith Post of the American Legion calls upon every American citizen to meet with them in public mass meetings to be held in each of the following towns during the week commencing February 11th.

Alvord—Monday, February 11th.

Chico—Tuesday, February 12th.

Bridgeport, Wednesday, Feb. 13th.

Paradise—Thursday, Feb. 14th.

Boyd—Friday, February 15th.

Decatur—Saturday, February 16th.

One or more of the following prominent citizens, as well as some of your community, have been asked to address the meetings for the purpose of arousing interest and enlisting the aid and support of all citizens for the adjusted compensation or bonus bill now before congress: Frank J. Ford, T. J. McMurray, M. W. Burch, Roy C. Coffee, W. C. Shults, P. L. Gettys, J. C. Patterson, H. E. Lobdell, J. C. Brown, A. Davenport, Rev. W. H. Baker, Rev. R. E. Bell, Rev. C. L. Bounds and others.

A clever and colossal campaign is being carried on by the wealthy and selfish interests to defeat the nation's debt to the ex-service man who gave up everything when the nation called at a dark hour. Our bonus bill and your bonus bill is in danger—now is the time to fight with us—and we want every man, woman and child in the county to come out to one or more of these meetings and help us put over this just and deserving cause. A petition will be passed around. Sign it and then we will send it to our senator and congressmen so that they will know that Wise county stands squarely and solidly behind the legion in its fight for the bonus bill.

BUSINESS CHANGES MADE AT DECATUR

The following changes of locations have been made among the business firms of the city during the week:

J. W. Bailey's insurance agency, E. R. Waufford's sewing machine agency and S. B. Johnson, jeweler, have moved into the Rice building on the southwest corner of the square.

Boyd & Sons insurance agency and Decatur Jewelry Company have occupied the room just east of the post office in the Masonic building.

E. L. Brandenburg is preparing to move his grocery store to his building on the northwest corner, formerly occupied by Decatur Jewelry Company.

Sextet Insurance Company moved its offices to the Luther Belew barber shop on the west side of square.

The case of the state of Texas against Oliver Kirby, charged with taking the life of Bill Covington at the home of the young man's father, J. L. Kirby, on the night of December 10th, came to a close Friday afternoon about four-thirty o'clock, when the case was given to the jury, following arguments by six attorneys in the case. The jury returned a verdict shortly after receiving the case, and by five o'clock Oliver Kirby was a free man. The case consumed five days in the district court, and capacity crowds were in attendance daily.

The attorneys in the case were: For the state—County Attorney P. L. Gettys, M. W. Burch and H. E. Lobdell; for the defense—T. J. McMurray, C. T. Gettys, Frank J. Ford and J. V. Patterson. Mr. Burch and Mr. Lobdell took turn about in acting as leading counsel for the state, and Mr. McMurray was chief counsel for the defense.

The following gentlemen composed the jury in trial of the case: W. H. Shelton, E. L. Seagraves, John Orr, S. D. McClung, M. W. Holley, P. E. Billbre, H. L. Hartsell, G. W. Payne, M. Gooch, W. B. Man, G. H. Walker, L. R. Works. Mr. Orr was foreman.

The story of the tragedy in which Mr. Covington lost his life has been told in the Messenger, and a complete story of the killing and proceedings of the trial were carried in last week's issue. The case had not closed when the Messenger went to press with its last edition, a few character witnesses had not been put on the stand when the forms for the edition were closed.

Covington was killed following a drunken row at the home of J. L. Kirby, following a visit to Greenwood by Bill Covington and Oliver Kirby's father. It was claimed by defendant that he shot and killed Covington while defending his father against the attacks of Covington.

LOCAL MUSICIANS' CLUB IN PROGRAM

Following is program for the local Musicians' Club for Thursday, February 7th:

Roll Call—Current musical events. Early American Music—Mrs. S. A. Lillard Sr.

(a) To a Wild Rose and (b) At an Old Trysting Place by MacDowell—Mrs. Tom Wright.

Life of MacDowell—Mrs. H. M. Helm.

Selection from MacDowell—Miss Preston.

Life of Nevin—Mrs. Roy Robertson.

Mighty Lak a Rose by Nevin—Mrs. Warren Lillard.

Narcissus by Nevin—Mrs. Zack F. Lillard.

Trio, Goodnight by Nevin—Mmes. P. J. Fullingim, D. H. Payne and W. P. Thurmond.

Selection from Nevin—Miss Artie Mae Floyd.

Chorus, Boat Song by Nevin—By the club.—Press Reporter.

METHODIST CHURCH

We will use the "Apostle Creed" for a basis of our sermon next Sunday. We will make clear what we mean when we say "Holy Catholic church." Tell your friends of the services. Those who think the Methodists are Roman Catholics should be present next Sunday.

Help us to make all our services what they should be by being present morning and evening. Have you tried a Wednesday evening service here? Come.—W. Harrison Baker, pastor.

Officer Buck Riley was over from Bridgeport one day this week. "We Bridgeport people tire of the rush and push of city life occasionally and we steal away and come over here to enjoy a quiet day," remarked Buck in reply to a Messenger reporter's inquiry, "how's Bridgeport?"

"I see by today's newspapers that Oregon is putting the screws to the bandits in Mexico," remarked S. A. Lillard to a Messenger reporter. "He is going about destroying the revolutionists in the proper manner, and if he will inject more of the tactics of Diaz into the proceedings, the gangs that are terrorizing Mexico will be gone away with in short order."

Fred Custis, a former Decaturite, visited old friends here this week. Mr. Custis operated a gin in South Decatur for fourteen years and was recognized as one of the best gin men in the state. For some years he has been a resident of Bowie, but has also operated gins in West Texas. "Decatur has improved greatly since I left here," stated Mr. Custis, "and I seem to have a much better business here than ever before."

Decatur is getting more "dated" than the daily papers than any town of its size in Texas," said Harry Cliff Cates of the chamber of commerce organization. "And," continued Mr. Cates, "it counts, and counts big, I tell you. We have one of the best towns and counties in Texas right here, and we should take particular pains in letting the people of other sections of the state know what we have."

Says Walter Spencer, manipulator-in-chief of the polish and brush at Spencer Shining Parlor: "Just think what a beautiful old town we could have today if the citizens, say twenty-five years ago, had taken an interest in tree planting. What a beautiful Decatur it would be if the streets were lined with trees! But, I suppose a majority of the citizens of that day and time were too busy laying the foundations for fortunes that never arrived."

President Gus Hughes of the local chamber of commerce remarked: "Do you know how to set a hen? If so, why does the hen that steals her nest often get a better hatch than when you set her? Funny, isn't it? Do you know the best way to control insect pests? Do you know the best way to prevent poultry diseases? Do you know the best way to select your breeders? Do you know the best way to cull for egg production? Do you know the best way to feed for winter eggs? Do you know the best way to get a good price for summer eggs? Do you know the best way to produce early friers? Do you know the best way to feed baby chicks? Do you know the best way to increase your flock average egg production? Do you know the best way to properly house your hens? Do you know the best way or successful way to do these things?—If you do, come; we need you. If you don't know, come; you need us."

The one-day poultry school to be held in Decatur on next Tuesday, February 5th, will be in two separate meetings in the morning for general public and for boy and girl club members. The Denver Railway poultry exhibition car and A. & M. College poultry specialists will be here for the day.

Decatur offers for the big poultry day next Tuesday, February 5th, cash prizes in two competitions of eggs from pure bred fowls: Five dollars, first; two dollars, second; and one dollar, third—for the best display of twelve white eggs, and the same for red or brown eggs. Uniforming, size, cleanliness, etc. will be the deciding factors. Five thousand circulars have gone out over the county advertising this approaching big day for better chickens for Wise county, and notices have appeared in all the state daily papers and the county papers. A huge congregation of enthusiastic poultry breeders are expected.

Mrs. Effie Price, county superintendent of schools, has notified all the schools. School children may learn here many practical and valuable lessons about a remunerative industry. It is extremely worth their while to come. A specialist will speak to them in a meeting to be attended by the pupils alone. At the same hour in the forenoon another A. & M. College specialist will address the public generally in a separate room. The Denver exhibit car will be open for inspection of the public during the afternoon. Decatur merchants show windows will have on display many fine pure bred birds of several of the standard breeds. It's to be a big day. If you miss it, you'll miss it—you will be behind on the latest information of the paying art of keeping chickens.

LOCATE LOST MAN IN LOCAL BASTILE

Last week the relatives of William Lewis Warren, age twenty-nine, were asking the Fort Worth police to assist in finding the man, as he was missing from his place of residence, and his check for something over a hundred dollars, which transaction resulted in his arrest on the charge of obtaining money under false pretenses.

Wise county officers went after the man, but found he had started to Fort Worth. The North Fort Worth police department was notified, and when Warren reached that city, he was arrested and turned over to Wise county officers.

While the south side police were searching for Warren at the request of his wife, the north side officers were arresting him for the Wise county sheriff.

Snake skin now on drug House window such curiosity that picture is here given of the firm: Upon the morning before one morning heard an awful commotion from the room, and when he found that a snake had been caught in a trap having snapped at the snake, the reptile was sent effort to escape thru the trap prevented his escape, Carl, being a brave lad, and the snake was at last killed. and carried seven miles. Carpenter's of securing for a medal.